WAKR AM·FM TV
the Radio-Television Center of Akron
853 Copley Road
Akron, Ohio 44320
216-762-8811
P.O. Box 1590
Akron, Ohio 44309

January 11, 1967

Mr. Harold Weisberg
COQ D'or Farm
Hyattstown, Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

At this time our organization wants to ascertain your interest toward a proposal submitted to us by Burt W. Griffin, a member of the Warren Commission staff. This proposal is detailed below.

We asked Mr. Griffin for this proposal on the basis of an interview and discussion I had with him last November.

From our point of view, a public airing of the criticisms and defenses of the Warren Report may well be a historical imperative. I cannot speculate what would comeof such a public symposium. But I contend this forum would provide for us all a magnificent opportunity to serve our nation.

There is no profit motive at stake in our willingness to produce such a forum. We see it simply as a public affairs gesture which our industry must make. Obviously, we would fancy the prestigious notion of our participation in production. But, very frankly, if it becomes physically impossible for this organization to present such a forum we will make every conceivable effort to have it presented by someone else. We feel that strongly about the need for this sort of statement of facts.

After you read the Griffin proposal, I would appreciate your comments on these questions:

1) Willingness to appear; at what ime of year; for how many days; remuneration required.

2) Stipulations as to the conduct of the forum if you're in disagreement with Griffin's format

We would not conduct such a presentation unless a network or syndication arrangement could be set up. Our tentative thoughts are toward a 100-station plus network of educational and independent stations. To finance "line" costs we of necessity would seek either foundation or commercial funds.

This letter is being sent to several members of the Commission staff and several of its critics.

This station and its management have the soundest reputation with the FCC and among fellow broadcasters. We are not entering into this matter on a whim or as an opportunist. I hope you understand our point of view.

Mr. Griffin's proposal follows.

Respectfully,

Herb Michelson

Herb Michelson
Public Affairs Director

HB:eec